

# Analysis and Computation of Adaptive Moving Grids by Deformation

Pavel Bochev, Guojun Liao, and Gary dela Pena

Department of Mathematics  
University of Texas at Arlington  
Box 19408, Arlington, TX 76019-0408

## Summary

1. Introduction
2. Equidistribution Principle
3. The Moving Grid Method
4. Numerical implementation
  - Least-squares principle for the div-curl system
  - Finite element method
5. Computational Experiments

# Introduction

## Why Moving Grids?

- Fixed reference domain  
⇒ simplified data structures and reduced overhead; in particular for three-dimensional domains
- Grid points are moved when and where the need arises  
⇒ overall efficiency of the adaptive process can be improved

## When to use Moving Grids?

- Transient solutions with sharp gradients
- Complex geometries
- Two and three-dimensional regions

## However...

*Moving grid methods in two and three dimensions may introduce “mesh tangling”.*

We develop efficient grid moving algorithms for one, two and three space dimensions which can be shown to be “mesh tangling” free in a rigorous mathematical way.

## Previous Work on Moving Grid Methods

K. Miller, *Moving Finite Elements II* SIAM J. Numer. Anal., 18 (1981) pp. 1033-1057.

K. Miller and R.N. Miller, *Moving Finite Elements I* SIAM J. Numer. Anal., 18 (1981), pp. 1019-1032.

P.A. Zegeling, *Moving-Grid Methods for Time-Dependent Partial Differential Equations*, CWI Tract, Netherlands, 1993.

G. Liao and B. Semper, *A Moving Grid Finite Element Method using Grid Deformation*, Numer. Methods for Partial Differential Equations, to appear.

G. Liao, T. Pan and J. Su, *Numerical Grid Generator Based on Moser's Deformation Method*, Numer. Methods for Partial Partial Differential Equations, 10 (1994), pp. 21-31.

G. Liao and J. Su, *A Moving Grid Method for (1+1) dimension*, Appl. Math. Letters, Vol. 8, 4, pp.47-49, 1995

## Equidistribution principle

### Moving Grid Ingredients

#### Weight Function.

- $f(x, t)$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f > 0$ , differentiable and has a non-zero lower bound.
- If  $f$  is discrete (from an error estimator) it is interpolated
- Normalization property:

$$\int_{\Omega} \left( \frac{1}{f} - 1 \right) dx = 0.$$

#### Mapping $\varphi$ .

- $\varphi$  is a one-to-one mapping from the computational domain  $\Omega$  into the physical domain  $\Omega$

#### Equidistribution condition.

- $\det \nabla \varphi(x, t) = f(\varphi(x, t), t)$ , all  $x \in \Omega$ , and  $t > t_0$ .

## The Moving Grid Method

We describe a method to construct the diffeomorphism  $\varphi$ .

1. Define a vector field  $\mathbf{v}$  by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{div} \mathbf{v}(x, t) &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{1}{f(x, t)} \right) \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v} &= 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} &= 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma.\end{aligned}$$

2. Define  $\varphi$  to be the solution of the ODE system

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \varphi(x, t) &= \mathbf{v}(\varphi, t) \cdot f(\varphi, t) \quad \text{for } t > t_0 \\ \varphi(x, t_0) &= \varphi_0(x) \quad \text{for } t = t_0 \\ \det \nabla \varphi_0(x) &= f(\varphi_0(x), t_0).\end{aligned}$$

**Theorem.**

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\det \nabla \varphi(x, t)}{f(\varphi(x, t), t)} \right) = 0 \quad \text{for all } t \geq t_0.$$

**Corollary.** The mapping  $\varphi$  satisfies

$$\det \nabla \varphi(x, t) = f(\varphi(x, t), t) \quad \text{for all } t \geq t_0, \text{ all } x \in \Omega.$$

This *deformation method* has its origins in Riemannian geometry:

J. Moser, *N*, *The Volume Elements on a Manifold*, Trans. Am. Math. Soc. 120, 286 (1965)

## Numerical Implementation

Successful numerical implementation of the grid moving algorithm combines two tasks:

1. Generation of the vector field  $\mathbf{v}$  via solution of a div-curl system.

We seek solution method which

- is suitable for complex geometries
- does not require significant storage
- is not computationally demanding
- has high accuracy

$\implies$  finite element method of least-squares type

- no additional stability conditions
- symmetric and positive definite discrete problems
- assembly-free implementation
- test and trial spaces need not satisfy the essential BC

2. Computation of the diffeomorphism  $\varphi$  via solution of a system of nonlinear ODE's. Here we look for

- efficiency
- high-order approximation

$\implies$  explicit 4th order Runge-Kutta solver

## Least-squares principle

### Least-squares quadratic functional

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{u}, f, \mathbf{g}) = \|\mathbf{div} \mathbf{u} - f\|_0^2 + \|\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{g}\|_0^2$$

### Least-squares variational principle

Seek  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbf{H}_n^1(\Omega)$  such that

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{u}, f, \mathbf{g}) \leq \mathcal{J}(\mathbf{v}, f, \mathbf{g})$$

for all  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}_n^1(\Omega)$ .

### Variational problem

Seek  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbf{H}_n^1(\Omega)$  such that

$$\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{v})$$

for all  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}_n^1(\Omega)$ .

where

$$\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = (\mathbf{div} \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{div} \mathbf{v}) + (\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v})$$

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{v}) = (\mathbf{div} \mathbf{v}, f) + (\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{g}) .$$

## Finite element solution

### Finite element spaces

We assume that  $S_h \subset H^1(\Omega)$  is a finite element space with the *optimal approximation property*

$$\|u - u^h\|_r \leq Ch^{d+1-r} \|u\|_{d+1}, \quad r = 0, 1.$$

Then we define the following discrete space

$$\mathbf{S}_h = \{\mathbf{u}^h \in S_h \times S_h \mid \mathbf{u}^h \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma\}.$$

### Discrete problem

Seek  $\mathbf{u}^h \in \mathbf{S}_h$  such that

$$\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{u}^h, \mathbf{v}^h) = \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{v}^h) \tag{1}$$

for all  $\mathbf{v}^h \in \mathbf{S}_h$ .

### Theorem.

The discrete problem (??) has a unique solution  $\mathbf{u}^h \in \mathbf{S}_h$ . For all sufficiently regular solutions of the div-curl system we have the error estimate

$$\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}^h\|_0 \leq Ch^d \|\mathbf{u}\|_{d+1}.$$

# Computational Experiments

## One-dimensional examples

### Example 1

$$u(x, t) = e^{-\pi^2 t} \sin(\pi x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

$$\text{Weight function: } f(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2}}.$$

This function is used to study the stability of grids for time dependent PDE's.

### Example 2

One-dimensional Cubic Schrodinger Equation

$$i \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + Q|u|^2 u = 0.$$

Exact solution  $u(x, t)$  is a soliton traveling to the right with unit velocity and a maximum amplitude of  $\sqrt{2}$ :

$$u(x, t) = \sqrt{2} \exp\{i(0.5x + 0.75t)\} \operatorname{sech}(x - t)$$

### Example 3

$$u(x, t) = \begin{cases} \frac{tc(t)}{\cosh^2(c(t)(x-t-0.3))+1.0-8t} & 0 \leq t \leq 0.1 \\ \frac{0.1c(t)}{\cosh^2(c(t)(x-t-0.3))+0.2} & t > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$c(t) = 1 + 3[1 + \tanh(20(t - 0.2))]; \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

$$\text{Weight function: } f(x, t) = \frac{1}{u(x, t)},$$

### Two-dimensional examples

#### Example 4 (spike)

$$u(x, y, t) = \sqrt{\frac{td}{\pi}} e^{-tdr} + 1.0 - 0.5t \quad 0 \leq x, y \leq 1,$$

where  $a = 0.5, b = 0.5, d = 40.0$  and  $r = (x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2$ .

$$\text{Weight function: } f(x, y, t) = \frac{1}{u(x, y, t)}.$$

### Example 5 (double spike)

$$u(x, y, t) = \sqrt{\frac{td}{\pi}} e^{-tdr_1} + ce^{-2tdr_2} + 1.0 - 0.5t \quad 0 \leq x, y \leq 1,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} r_1 &= (x - a_1)^2 + (y - b_1)^2, \\ r_2 &= (x - a_2)^2 + (y - b_2)^2, \end{aligned}$$

$$a_1 = b_1 = 0.25, a_2 = b_2 = 0.75, d = 40 \text{ and } c = 1.$$

$$\text{Weight function: } f(x, y, t) = \frac{1}{u(x, y, t)}.$$

### Example 6

Adaptive grid clustered around a sinusoidal curve.

Weight function:

$$f(x, y, t) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \leq y < r - 0.2 \\ 0.5 - 2.5(y - r)t + (1 - t) & r - 0.2 \leq y \leq r \\ 0.5 + 2.5(y - r)t + (1 - t) & r < y \leq r + 0.2 \\ 1 & r + 0.2 < y \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

where

$$r = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} \sin(2\pi x).$$